



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Bureau of Land Management
National Park Service
Bureau of Indian Affairs

Federal Subsistence Board News Release



Forest Service

For Immediate Release
July 17, 2012

Contact: Doug Palmer
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Cook Inlet Area Inseason Manager
(907) 262-9863
douglas_palmer@fws.gov

Kasilof River Chinook Salmon Federal Subsistence Fishery Closed

The Federal subsistence fishery for Chinook salmon will close in the Kasilof River downstream from the outlet of Tustumena Lake beginning 12:01 a.m., Thursday, July 19, through 11:59 p.m., Wednesday, August 15, 2012. This closure prohibits all subsistence fishing for Chinook salmon. Chinook salmon may not be retained or possessed. Chinook salmon accidentally caught while fishing for other species must be released immediately.

Chinook salmon runs to Cook Inlet and throughout Alaska are experiencing a period of low productivity and low run strength. No inseason stock assessment data are available for late-run Kasilof River Chinook salmon. However, low run strength has been observed during 2012 with early-run Kasilof River Chinook salmon and both early-run and late-run Chinook salmon in the Kenai River indicating that the late-run of Chinook salmon in the Kasilof River will also exhibit low run strength. Therefore, closure of the Federal subsistence fishery is warranted to conserve Kasilof River late-run Chinook salmon. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game has taken similar action and closed the sport fishery for Chinook salmon in the Kasilof River.

For additional information, contact Federal Inseason Manager Doug Palmer at (907) 262-9863. Additional information about the Federal Subsistence Management Program can be found on the Web at <http://alaska.fws.gov/asm/home.html>.

-FSB-

1011 East Tudor Road, Mail Stop 121, Anchorage, Alaska 99503 (800) 478-1456 or (907) 786-3888